



Justice Information Network

JIN COMMUNITY UPDATE

A report to the criminal justice community on issues of common interest

Volume 1, Number 6

February 2000

CJIA Executive Committee Meeting

February 15, 2000 at 10:00 a.m.

DIS Boardroom, Forum Building

JIC Meeting

The scheduled February, 2000 meeting of the JIC has been cancelled. The next scheduled meeting is April 3, 2000

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1999 in Review, Directions for 2000

The Criminal Justice Information Act (CJIA) Executive Committee devoted its December 1999 meeting to reviewing the past year, and to measuring the progress made on each of its projects against goals outlined in the 1999-2001 Biennial Integration Blueprint. This edition of the *JIN Community Update* takes stock of what we have achieved and what still lies ahead.

The 1999-2001 Biennial Integration Blueprint is a joint undertaking of the Justice Information Committee (JIC) and the CJIA Executive Committee. It outlines the strategy for completing a fully integrated justice network that will improve the accuracy, completeness, and timeliness of criminal justice information within Washington.

The blueprint contains seven Justice Information Network goals for the 1999-2001 biennium:

1. Complete the rewrite of the Washington State Identification System (WASIS) and Crime Information Center (WACIC) applications, collectively known as W2.
2. Implement live scan devices that use Process Control Numbers (PCNs) to automatically update criminal history files;
3. Continue working towards full PCN implementation;
4. Standardize "rap sheets" for both in-state and out-of-state criminal histories;
5. Plan, design, and complete a feasibility study for a statewide jail reporting system;
6. Fully involve local jurisdictions in every aspect of JIN; and
7. Ensure coordination and consistency among JIN and state and local government projects.

JIN Web Site

The JIN web site is now in full production at:

www.wa.gov/dis/jin

Progress made in 1999

W2 application rewrite

In September 1999, the Washington State Patrol successfully implemented a rewrite of its **WASIS** and **WACIC** applications. These systems capture arrest, fingerprint, and final disposition data, as well as information about crimes and criminals, missing persons, and stolen property. The new combined system better reflects criminal justice business practices, automates data collection, and is expected to be easier to maintain and use. The project was completed ahead of schedule and \$370,000 under the revised budget. The State Patrol is currently working on a number of smaller projects to add additional functionality to this system, which will increase its value to local agencies.

Implementing live scan devices with PCN capability

Live scan devices that are capable of using PCNs to automatically update criminal history files is progressing satisfactorily. Twenty one counties and two police departments have plans in place to purchase live scan equipment that will accept PCNs. These purchases are taking place thanks to NCHIP awards, the Washington State Patrol AFIS Replacement Project, and local funding. Additionally, King County is in the process of purchasing 22 live scan devices that will be linked to its AFIS Regional workstation and, in turn, to the Washington State Patrol. The next step for these agencies is to employ the live scan devices and update their criminal history files. Funding for a feasibility study and implementation of this vital link is the next priority for the justice community.

Implementing process control numbers

Washington State Patrol is spearheading this work with the assistance of the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs. Process control number implementation has been completed in 28 counties, covering 54 percent of the criminal history reports in this state. Three additional counties are completing the process and six counties are on hold pending the installation of live scan devices. Once these counties complete their implementation, 96 percent of all criminal history reports in Washington will be covered under this program. One additional county is scheduled to complete its implementation of process control numbers in February of 2000.

Standardizing rap sheets

Federal guidelines are in development, and are currently undergoing a pilot test. While this effort is underway, the state of Washington is modifying information fields to meet the specific business needs of its clients. As future requirements of the standardized rapsheet are finalized at the federal level, the rap sheet forms will be enhanced. The Washington State Patrol plans to implement a rap sheet that will be a web-based application, including images of suspects when they are available.

Feasibility study on statewide jail reporting system

The Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC) is leading the work to plan, design, and complete a jail feasibility study on a statewide jail reporting system. A jail reporting system answers the “where” questions about the location of a suspect or offender, and serves the planning needs of the jail community. WASPC has completed its feasibility study ahead of schedule, and is now actively seeking funding for the statewide jail reporting system itself.

Coordinating JIN projects across state and local governments

Efforts to fully involve local jurisdictions in every aspect of JIN and ensure coordination and consistency between JIN and state and local government projects are resulting in progress. The JIN coordinator has traveled throughout southeastern Washington, meeting with criminal justice communities in King, Skamania, Yakima, Douglas, Benton, Franklin, Walla Walla and Whitman counties, and each county's information technology department. The coordinator is scheduling meetings with jurisdictions in the I-5 corridor for the winter months and summer meetings in northeastern Washington. The feedback from local jurisdictions is supportive of JIN and its efforts, mission and goals. In addition to informing the local jurisdictions about JIN and its projects, the coordinator is organizing regional groups of justice partners. The *JIN Community Update* continues to be a strong vehicle for sharing information with local government. The JIN web page at <http://www.wa.gov/dis/jin> also provides up-to-date information about evolving projects.

In addition to the goals outlined by the blueprint, The justice community has identified specific projects that are essential for justice integration in Washington. These include initiation of **phase one for the OBTS replacement project** at the Department of Corrections.

In November 1999 the Department of Corrections announced vendor for the replacement effort which will also include an Offender Management component. The new system Offender Management Network Information system will be called **OMNI**, and will allow DOC to better manage a growing and changing offender population and play a vital role in the statewide integration effort.

Remaining steps essential for justice integration

There is still much work to be done to achieve total justice integration. The blueprint identifies three basic objectives and activities that must be completed to make integration a reality:

1. Real-time statewide-automated fingerprint

identification must be realized. This is a prime directive of the justice community because it will address the need for positively identifying a suspect in custody. This drive is being led by the Washington State Patrol. Once live scan technology is implemented throughout the state, local law enforcement agencies will be able to deliver fingerprints to the WSP at the time of arrest or while the suspect is still in custody. The AFIS will be able to search for a fingerprint match in its database and deliver results to the local agency in a matter of minutes. Real-time, statewide, automated identification capability will close the net around criminals who attempt to conceal their true identities and criminal histories by using an alias. Realizing the full promise of this technology, however, will require additional funding for a feasibility study and implementation.

2. Availability of complete, accurate, and timely

information on suspects and offenders must be achieved. This information includes a description of an individual's offense, present location, and how far his or her case has progressed in the justice system. Meeting this objective will require a great deal of additional work. Funding is currently being sought to link live scan devices and court dispositions to criminal history files.

3. Interactive network access to a Summary Offender

Profile should be available to justice agencies throughout the JIN from a single terminal. This vision for an interactive network can be realized through the state's powerful telecommunications network. The Summary Offender Profile will provide justice practitioners and other authorized users with a single access point for the information necessary to make daily decisions on criminal cases as they are processed through the stages of the justice system. The interactive network will also enable practitioners to

If you would like to work on the Summary Offender Profile project, please contact JIN Coordinator Dennis Hausman at 360-902-3463 or dennish@dis.wa.gov for information.

gain direct access—from a single terminal—to data residing in the justice information systems of agencies contributing to the Summary Offender Profile.

When fully implemented, the strategic objectives of this plan will widen the net of identification around criminals that attempt to elude the justice system, and will strengthen the net by administering justice fully and fairly. When fulfilled, these goals will yield a fully integrated justice network that makes accurate and complete justice information available in a useful form wherever and whenever it is needed.

This past year has brought considerable progress toward an integrated justice system in this state. The successes are testimony to the hard work that justice partners and the community as a whole have done. The future presents many promises and challenges. Together, we can meet those opportunities and be successful.

For Your Information

Criminal Victimization Survey Software

Criminal Victimization Survey Software, a program for localities to conduct their own telephone surveys of residents to collect data on crime victimization, attitudes toward policing, and other community-related issues, is available online as a free download, or on CD-ROM (PK000058) for a \$12.00 shipping and handling fee. Contact the BJS Clearinghouse at 1-800-732-3277 or askcvcs@ncjrs.org for additional information.

-from JUSTINFO, electronic newsletter sponsored by the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs

Drug Courts Program Office Fiscal Year 2000 Grant Application Kit

The Drug Courts Program Office (DCPO) is pleased to announce that the Fiscal Year 2000 Grant Application Kit will be released on December 17, 1999. To view the application kit, please visit the DCPO Web page at <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/dcpo.htm>.

-from JUSTINFO, electronic newsletter sponsored by the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs

Seattle Selected to Pilot New COMPASS Initiative

Seattle has been selected to pilot a new initiative called COMPASS: Community Mapping, Planning, and Analysis of Safety Strategies. COMPASS takes a data-driven approach to fighting crime. The National Institute of Justice (NIJ) will provide up to \$1 million in financial and in-kind assistance for the implementation of the COMPASS initiative, coordinated by Seattle Mayor Paul Schell's office.

COMPASS is a unique information-based program that retrieves information from such sources as employment statistics, land use data, hospital records, and arrest and victimization statistics and collates them into a centralized database. This database will build upon the technology infrastructure Seattle currently has in place. COMPASS will apply Geographic Information System (GIS) technology to this database, allowing public safety agencies to plot crime-related data against a map of a specified community or region. The GIS mapping capability will help to analyze how the relationships among these community factors affect its overall well being.

An interagency policy group, composed of a number of local officials--such as the mayor, chief of police, school superintendent, officials from social service agencies and others--will analyze the data and develop appropriate programmatic policy responses. Universities and local research institutes will also play a key role in the COMPASS implementation, by collecting and analyzing information as well as helping to design interventions that will effectively respond to the community's crime problems.

NIJ and the Office of Justice Programs (OJP) hope to expand the COMPASS program next year.

Summary Offender Profile

Work has begun on the Summary Offender Profile. The committee is in the process of learning what information the justice community would like to see in a Summary Offender Profile. If you have an interest in working on that committee, please contact JIN Coordinator Dennis Hausman at (360) 902-3463 or dennish@dis.wa.gov.

Call for Enterprise Funding Task Force Members

In last month's *JIN Community Update*, we wrote about trying to find a more equitable way of working with limited federal funding. If you

Remember to bookmark the Justice Information Network web site at <http://www.wa.gov/dis/jin>

have an interest in becoming part of the Enterprise Funding Task Force, please call JIN Coordinator Dennis Hausman at (360) 902-3463 or dennish@dis.wa.gov. There will be a meeting scheduled for sometime in February 2000. We need your thoughts.